SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-66554; File No. SR-CME-2012-04)

March 9, 2012

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Mercantile Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend the Fee Schedule Applicable to its OTC Interest Rate Swap Clearing Offering

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ and Rule

19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on March 1, 2012, Chicago Mercantile Exchange

Inc. ("CME") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed

rule change described in Items I, II and III below, which items have been prepared primarily by

CME. CME filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii)³ of the Act and

Rule $19b-4(f)(2)^4$ thereunder.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule</u> <u>Change</u>

CME is proposing to amend the fee schedule that currently applies to its OTC Interest

Rate Swap clearing offering. The text of the proposed changes is attached as Exhibit 5 to the

proposed rule change, which is available on CME's website at

http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the</u> <u>Proposed Rule Change</u>

In its filing with the Commission, CME included statements concerning the purpose and

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. CME has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the</u> <u>Proposed Rule Change</u>

CME currently offers clearing for certain OTC Interest Rate Swap products. The filing proposes to amend the current fee schedule that applies to CME's OTC Interest Rate Swap ("IRS") clearing fees. The proposed changes are related to fees and therefore will become effective immediately. However, the proposed fee changes will become operative as of March 12, 2012, and by their terms will expire on September 30, 2012.

The proposed fee changes will temporarily modify CME's current OTC IRS clearing fee schedule so that all house accounts of CME IRS Clearing Members will be charged a flat fee of \$250 per ticket on a preallocation basis between March 12, 2012, and September 30, 2012, for any trades accepted for clearing where the effective date of the trade is prior to the date the trade was accepted for clearing ("backloaded trades"). The temporary fee rates will apply to all CME IRS Clearing members submitting backloaded trades to CME for clearing during the applicable time period.

CME believes the temporary modification to the CME IRS Fee Schedule will encourage IRS Clearing members to submit additional volume into the system to ensure readiness and help build open interest ahead of a regulatory mandate.

CME has also certified the proposed rule changes that are the subject of this filing to its primary regulator, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC").

The proposed CME rule amendments establish or change a member due, fee, or other

charge imposed by CME and therefore fall under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder. CME believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder and in particular, with Section 17A(b)(3)(D) in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among participants. CME notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily direct business to competing venues.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

CME does not believe that the proposed rule change will have any impact or impose any burden on competition.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule</u> <u>Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

CME has not solicited and does not intend to solicit comments regarding this proposed rule change. CME has not received any unsolicited written comments from interested parties.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change was filed pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act and paragraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4 and therefore became effective on filing. At any time within sixty days of the filing of such rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- Electronic comments may be submitted by using the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml), or send an e-mail to <u>rule-</u> <u>comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File No. SR-CME-2012-04 on the subject line.
- Paper comments should be sent in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C., 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CME-2012-04. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet website (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of CME. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you

wish to make available publicly.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CME-2012-04 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁵

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

⁵ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).